

## WEST LEEDS GREENWAY

### Phase 4.

#### Woodhall Lake to Cockersdale.

#### 18 Pudsey.

Much of this route follows valleys running below the high ground to the south and west of Pudsey. Indeed the elevated position of Pudsey on the landscape is reflected in Domesday records, in which Pudsey is recorded as *Podeschesaie*, derived from *Pudoc*, an Old English personal name, and *heagh* meaning high ground. Atop this high ground is St Lawrence church, which is set on one of the highest points in Pudsey, a vantage point which means the church can be seen for much of our route.



**1 Thornbury.** On a wet and windy day in 1903, a taste of the Wild West chugged into town. Bill Cody, better known as Buffalo Bill, arrived in Thornbury on the 5th October with his Wild West extravaganza. An arena was set up on fields close to Leeds Road and 28 000 people arrived to watch battles and chases and demonstrations of sharp shooting. Sadly persistent rain turned the arena into a mud bath and wind collapsed a house onto part of the arena.

**2 Duckett's Crossing and Wildgrove Farm.** The level crossing which bisects the southern end of Dale Road is named after Richard Duckett who bought the Wildgrove estate in 1845. He moved into the farmhouse which lay at the end of the access track but later built himself a grander property, situated on the other side of the track. Both properties can still be seen. In 1854 a railway track was laid by the Leeds Bradford Railway Company, which crossed over his access road. In order to allow access to his farmstead, a level crossing was installed, and is still known as Duckett's Crossing.

**3 Gibraltar Mill,** which stood in the valley bottom below the hamlet of Gibraltar, or Delph End, was originally built in 1801 by Joseph Thackrah. This was only Pudsey's second steam powered wool scribbling

and fulling mill, and, up until the mid nineteenth century, was the largest mill in Pudsey. It remained standing until the 1930's, though the cobbled packhorse track, which led down to the mill from the Wildgrove estate, remains intact and accessible.



**4 Uppermoor Quarry** is said to have been worked for hundreds of years, and was possibly medieval in origin. Certainly the sandstone it produced was used in the construction of the Moravian settlement, commenced in the mid 1740's, as well as many other buildings in west Pudsey. The stone, which was celebrated as a hard, good quality building stone was known locally as 'nell'. In 1730 part of the moor was used for horse racing, and even earlier evidence of human activity existed in earthworks which were visible prior to enclosure in around 1813.

**5** To the south of Gibraltar Mill, adjacent to Tyersal Lane, stood **Smalewell Mill.** This woollen mill was first constructed in 1821, but on the night of 9th November 1867 a fire broke out in the boiler house. Despite the attendance of Pudsey's brand new fire engine which was successful in extinguishing the fire, the roof fell in and £500 worth of damage sustained. **Buffy Lump** is a tiny cottage, which featured on the 1817 enclosure map and lay close to Smalewell Mill. Built from stone taken from Uppermoor Quarry, this tiny remnant of Pudsey's past still remains.



**6** Formerly known as the Smalewell Inn, the **Fox and Grapes pub** stands above the road which led down to **Smalewell Quarry** in a little hamlet known in the nineteenth century as Jumbles Well. By 1866 the pub had taken on its current name, and following a terrible accident in 1895, when a young girl fell to her death over the edge of Smalewell Quarry, was chosen as the venue for her inquest.

**7** In 1892 the Pudsey and Low Moor branch line, together with the quarter mile long **Greenside railway tunnel** opened. The tunnel entrance is situated just below the Fox and Grapes pub, adjacent to the bridge carrying the Smalewell Quarry track. The line continued west towards Bradford, travelling across Pudsey Beck along a man made embankment, said to be the largest of its kind in Europe.

**8 Black Carr Woods** The name of this woodland offers a clue to its wet nature, as carr refers to a wet woodland, usually found in a valley bottom, where tree species tolerant to wet conditions, such as alder and willow, thrive. A second woodland, called Holme Wood, also stood, until around the mid 20th Century, immediately to the south west of Black Carr Wood. Originally of a similar size, all that remains of this woodland today is a faint trace of boundary trees, the remainder having been cleared.



**9** Although **Bankhouse** was originally known as Ulversthorpe, this fell out of use some 500 years ago, to be replaced in the eighteenth century by Lane End. When Moravian colonists arrived in the area in the 1740's, it was at Bankhouse that they first settled.



**10 The Bridle Roads - Scholebrook Lane (a) Abe Lane (b) Keeper Lane (c).**

These old bridle routes hark back to a time when goods were moved around either by people on foot, or by mule. Indeed, Scholebrook Lane was nicknamed Jack Ass, in recognition of the pannier toting mules that carried coal to sell in the Pudsey area.

Keeper Lane, which runs down towards Pudsey from Bradford, was named after the gamekeepers cottage which was situated at the top on the lane. The track, which runs down to Hobroyd Bridge, is picked up at the Leeds boundary by Abey Lane, named after Abraham Hutchinson, one time owner of Newstead House, which is situated at the top of the lane. The bridge took its name from Hobroyd Field in the valley bottom, Hobroyd supposedly translating as the land cleared of trees where the hobgoblins lurk. Be warned !

**11 Park Wood** (private woodland) originally formed part of the Tempest family's Tong Park Estate, and still forms a backdrop to Tong Hall, which looks out over the valley, towards the Moravian settlement on the Leeds side.



**12 Fulneck - The Moravian Settlement**

In the 1700's England formed a regular embarkation point for Moravian missionaries leaving for the Americas and West Indies. Eventually members of the Moravian Church settled here too. One such colony was founded in the mid 1740's on the twenty-two acre Falneck estate. The name later changed to Fulneck, after a town in Moravia. The initial building phase encompassed a chapel; accommodation for the brethren and sisters, and a school. Added to this was a shop, bakery and various workshops, all linked along a broad terrace, known as The Terrace, which overlooked the Tong valley. This linear settlement has changed little, although the school, initially established to educate the children of Moravian missionaries, has long since been open to all children. There is also a museum, which is open to the public during the summer months.

**13** The name **Sister's Wood** was given to this small, but well established, pocket of beech woodland by the Moravian settlers, and

although named Sister's Wood, it was regularly visited by both the brethren and sisters, although on alternate days. Prior to the arrival of the Moravian settlers the woodland was called Holdsworth's Wood, named after the Holdsworth family who owned the Bankhouse Estate in the seventeenth century.

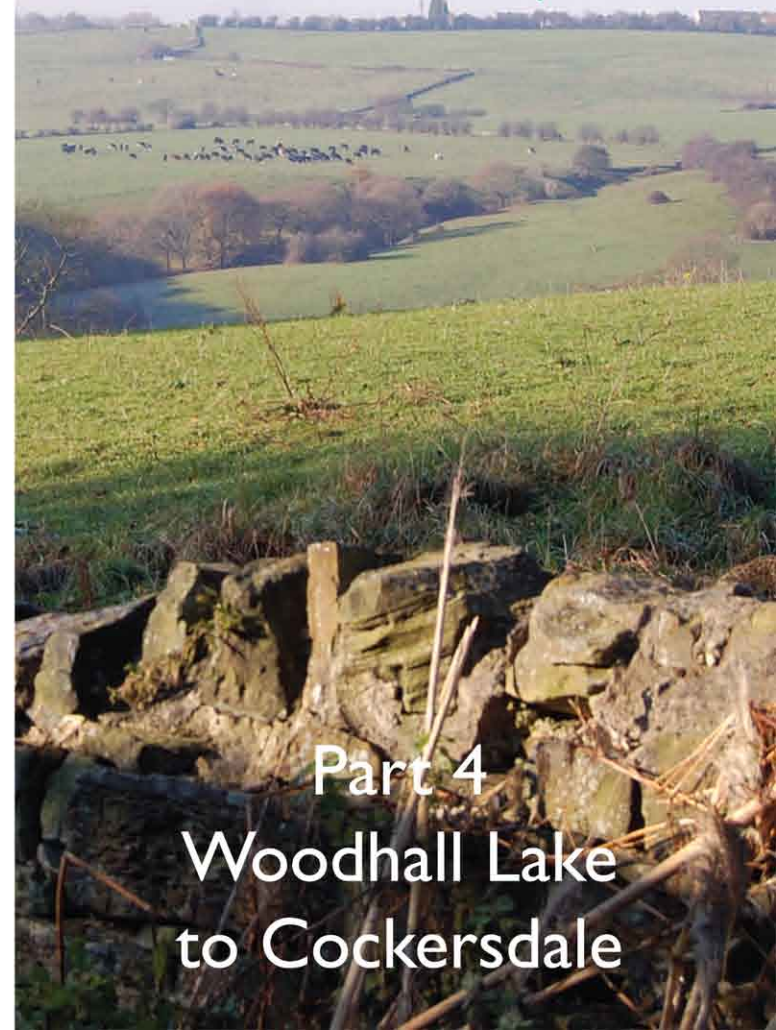
**14** Surrounding Sister's Wood is **Fulneck Golf Club**, which was established in 1892. The club was set up by the then Headmaster at the Moravian Boy's school, who, it is said, held the first meeting in his home.

**15** Built in 1874 by S.A. Jones and Co., and later extended, **South Park Mill** spun and manufactured worsted cloths at a time when the woollen clothing industry in Pudsey was at its height.



**16** Much of this route closely follows a number of small **streams**, including Pudsey Beck and Tyersal Beck. Today these watercourses provide tranquil places, rich in wildlife, but up until the end of the 19th century and into the early 20th century, they formed a vital resource for industry.

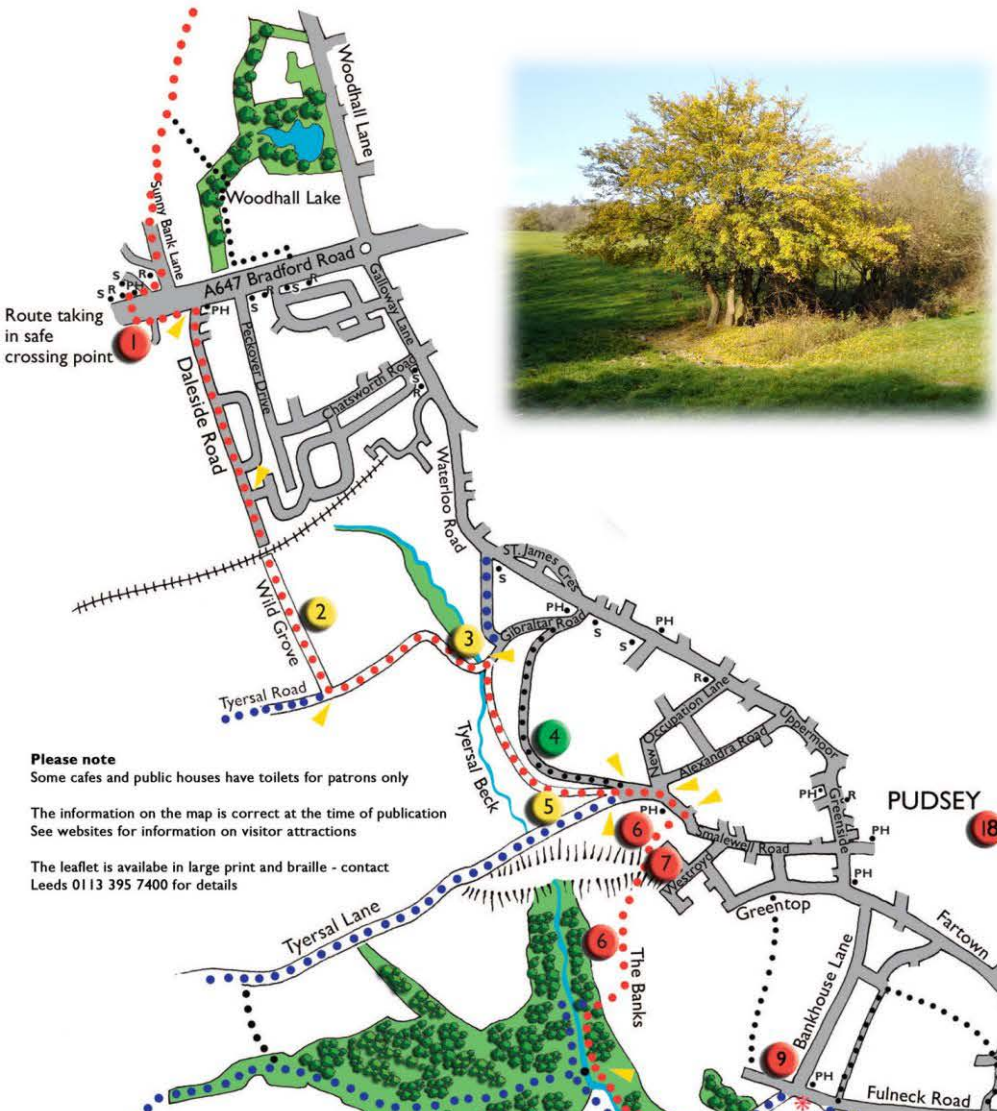
**17** Built in the late eighteenth century, this was the first woollen mill in Pudsey to use steam power in the fulling and scribbling process. The mill continued to thrive, moving on to produce worsted cloth, and by the end of the nineteenth century **Union Bridge Mill** was one of the main employers in the Pudsey areas, employing around 400 millworkers. It has now been given a new lease of life as apartments.



Part 4  
Woodhall Lake  
to Cockersdale



# GreenGateways



Route taking in safe crossing point

**Please note**  
Some cafes and public houses have toilets for patrons only

The information on the map is correct at the time of publication  
See websites for information on visitor attractions

The leaflet is available in large print and braille - contact  
Leeds 0113 395 7400 for details

**We want you to have a safe and enjoyable walk.  
Please take a minute to read the advice below;  
Where possible walk as part of a group preferably in daylight hours.  
Plan your route in advance - follow the signs.  
Let someone know the route you're taking - and the time you expect to reach your destination  
Stay alert**



- West Leeds Country Park Green Gateways trail
- ..... Additional access routes
- Bridleway
- Green space with public open access
- Places of interest with no public access onto premises
- Places of interest with public access
- \* View point
- Railway line
- >> Canal lock
- PH Public House
- S Sandwich shop
- R Restaurant
- ▲ Selected access points



Watch out for kingfishers and herons along the stream